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What is claimed:

- 1. A method for infrared spectral imaging of a sample using a spectrometer and a sensor, comprising the steps of:
 - a) selecting a first retardation of the spectrometer;
- b) illuminating the sample with infrared light emitted by the spectrometer;
 - sending a trigger signal from the spectrometer to the detector,
 thereby causing recording of a data point by the detector;
 - d) selecting another retardation of the spectrometer;
- 10 e) repeating steps (b)-(d) until a predetermined number of retardations have been selected; and
 - f) repeating steps (a)-(e) until a predetermined number of interferograms of the sample have been collected.
- 2. A method for infrared spectral imaging of a sample using a spectrometer and a sensor, comprising the steps of:
 - a) selecting a scanning speed of the spectrometer;
 - b) causing the spectrometer to scan the sample with infrared light;
 - c) triggering the detector to measure absorption of light by the sample upon starting the scan; and
 - d) repeating steps (b)-(c) a predetermined number of times.